

**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**Naval Reactors Laboratory Field Office**  
**Knolls Laboratory**  
National Environmental Policy Act Categorical Exclusion (CX)  
Determination Summary Form

**KAPL-HILLSIDE, AOC-001 (G2/H2 PORTION), REMEDIATION PROJECT**

**REFERENCE:**

10 CFR Part 1021, Department of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementation Procedures, Subpart D, Typical Classes of Actions

**PROJECT SCOPE DISCUSSION:**

The Hillside Area of Concern, AOC-001 (G2/H2 portion), Remediation Project is located at the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory Knolls Site located in Niskayuna, New York. This Area of Concern is regulated under the Corrective Action provisions of the Site's 6 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Part 373 Hazardous Waste Management Facility Permit (NYSDEC Permit #4-4224-00024/00001) that was issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). Extensive environmental characterization work in the G2/H2 area shows soil and groundwater have been impacted by various volatile organic compounds (VOCs); principally trichloroethylene.

Remediation of the G2/H2 area will be conducted as an Interim Corrective Measure (ICM) in accordance with the NYSDEC-approved Hillside AOC-001 ICM Work Plan. The ICM objective is to excavate VOC-impacted soil that exceeds 6 NYCRR Part 375-6 unrestricted use soil cleanup objectives.

The ICM will be conducted by a DOE-EM SPRU contractor (URS). URS work will entail the preparation of an excavation plan in accordance with the ICM Work Plan for NYSDEC's approval. URS' excavation plan implementation will entail excavation and management of VOC impacted soil (~3,000 cubic yards), excavation water management, confirmation sampling, transportation and off-site disposal of waste, and backfilling. The estimate for completing this work is \$3.6M.

The project area does not contain jurisdictional wetlands, other sensitive environments, or tribal lands. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action. This action is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant and/or cumulative impacts. The scope does not include construction or major expansion of waste management structures or facilities.

**CONCLUSION**

The Hillside Area of Concern, AOC-001 (G2/H2 portion), Remediation Project is categorically excluded from additional NEPA documentation under 10 CFR 1021 Subpart D, Appendix B, CX B6.1. The specific categorical exclusion that applies is excerpted below.

- B6.1 Small-scale, short-term cleanup actions under RCRA, Atomic Energy Act, or other authorities less than approximately 5 million dollars in cost and 5 years duration, to reduce risk to human health or the environment from the release or threat of release of a hazardous substance other than high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, including treatment (e.g., incineration), recovery, storage, or disposal of wastes at

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existing facilities currently handling the type of waste involved in the action. These actions include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Excavation or consolidation of contaminated soils or materials from drainage channels, retention basins, ponds, and spill areas that are not receiving contaminated surface water or waste water, if surface water or groundwater would not collect and if such actions would reduce the spread of, or direct contact with, the contamination;

\*\*\*\* (Additional actions, items (b) to (o), are contained in the full wording of the CX found in 10 CFR 1021 Subpart D.)

NRLFO Approval:

  
S. L. Cipperly

Date:

9/27/11  
CX Determination Date